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1. Most well-known liberals in Peiping belong to one or another of the many minority parties, but the majority belong to the China Democratic League (CDL). In principle, all parties, including the Chinese Communist Party (CCP), work on the basis of a single platform, the common program produced by the Chinese People's Political Consultative Conference (CPPCC). All of the four social classes (farmers, workers, bourgeoisie, and national capitalists) have to be organized for collective work and for cooperation with and supervision by the Government. The Communists believe themselves to represent the interests of the proletariat, and, accordingly, are best suited to organize the proletariat and farmers. The organization of the bourgeoisie and national capitalists is left to the other parties. In effect, therefore, the existence of other parties is a division of labor.
2. Each minority party reflects the view of its own class. Each carries on consultation with the government whenever there are differences between class and government, relays the government's views to the class, and keeps both sides informed on current developments and requirements. The CDL represents the middle class and the intellectuals; and the Min Chu Ch'u Chin Hui, headed by men like HUANG Yen-p'ei\*, concentrates on the national capitalists. For example, to the home of YEN Ching-yao (LEI Chieh-ch'ung), a member of the Government Committee of Culture and Education and a key figure in the Min Chu Ch'u Chin Hui, there is a steady stream of visitors who are mostly bankers and big businessmen concerned with economic and political matters as well as social affairs. In such a situation, the small parties are part of the political machine and are essential during the transitional period of the new regime while the four social classes co-exist. For this reason the CCP deplors the decision to disband, made by the leaders of some small parties, as showing a lack of understanding of government policy on this point.
3. The Kuomintang Revolutionary Committee is large but unimportant in comparison with its size. Nevertheless, the Communist Government relies upon it to guide the action of some four million mainland Kuomintang members, active or inactive; and many important posts with real power are

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given to its members. This is done to reduce dissension and to consolidate the position of the new government.

4. It is, of course, taken for granted in Peiping that Communist Party members are secretly assigned key positions in each of these small parties. CHOU Hsi-min (周新民) \*\*, the chief of the Organization Department of the CDL, is said to be a Party member.

\* [ ] Comment. HUANG Yen-p'ei holds the Government post of Vice Premier of the Government Administration Council. He is also Minister of Light Industry.

\*\* [ ] Comment. CHOU Hsi-min, [ ] is head of the Secretariat Department of the CDL.

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